

MISCOWAUBIK CLUB
Calumet
Calumet Avenue
Calumet
Houghton County
Michigan

HABS MI-276
MI-276

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
PHILADELPHIA SUPPORT OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Custom House, 3rd Floor
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MISCOWAUBIK CLUB

HABS No. MI-276

- Location: Calumet Avenue, in Calumet, Houghton County, Michigan. The club is one of the contributing structures included in the 36-acre Calumet and Hecla industrial district listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The club is located between the Calumet Village School and the General Offices of the company; nearby is the Agassiz House, all in the village of Calumet.¹
- Present Owner, Occupant, and Use: The Miscowaubik Club has operated as a private club and meeting place with dining facilities since the first part of the twentieth century.²
- Notes: Allegedly in 1875, the Miscowaubik Club building was constructed as a dwelling for a Calumet and Hecla Company chief mining engineer, Thomas Hoatson.³ The rectangular plan measured approximately 108'7" x 83'2", and the two-and one-half -story, wood frame entity rising up from this footprint was covered by a gable roof. The structure was converted into a private club in 1903 by the firm Parker, Thomas and Rice along with the Calumet and Hecla Mining Company's architectural department.⁴ By the mid-1970s, the frame building had suffered from some incompatible exterior remodeling and extensive interior renovations.
- Sources: Charles K. Hyde and Diane B. Abbot, The Upper Peninsula of Michigan: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites (Washington: Historic American Engineering Record, 1978, cited in "Calumet and Hecla Industrial District," Nomination form

¹ Location taken from "Calumet and Hecla Mine Location and Village of Calumet," site map, rev. 1987, National Historic Landmarks, National Park Service.

² See, for example, "Coppertown USA," (Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc., for UOP Realty Development Company, 1972), p. 48; also, Personal Communication, A. Kim Hoagland, Michigan Technological University, to Virginia B. Price, Historic American Buildings Survey, 2001.

³ Personal Communication, Erik Nordberg, University Archivist, MTU Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, to Virginia B. Price, Historic American Buildings Survey, March 2002. Nordberg also mentioned that there is a set of drawings for the 1903 conversion from dwelling to clubhouse "as well as a miscellany of other drawings pertaining to alterations over time." The archives also holds a 1990 published history and 1990 set of measured drawings of the club, a small vertical file, membership directories, and so on; the club itself maintains good records of its past. These research leads should be followed up. -vbp.

⁴ Notes by Kevin Harrington &/or Wendy Nicholas, 1975.

1974, 1977, National Register for Historic Places, National Park Service.

“Coppertown USA.” Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc., for UOP Realty Development Company, 1972.

Historians:

The summer historians were Kevin Harrington and Wendy Nicholas, who worked for the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record on the Calumet area survey in 1975.